

Five Minute Chats on Our Presidents

By JAMES MORGAN

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SLUGS AND ARROWS

- 1877-9—Grant's tour of the world.
1880—June, defeated for nomination for third term in Republican national convention. Entered the firm of Grant & Ward, bankers in New York.
1881—Failure of Grant & Ward. Grant began to write his "Personal Memoirs." Afflicted with cancer of the throat.
1885—March 4, Congress revived the rank of General for him. July 23, died at Mt. McGregor, N. Y., aged sixty-three.

WHEN Grant left the White House, freed from public care for the first time in 15 years, his uppermost wish was to visit his daughter, Mrs. Nellie Sartoris, in England, where he was surprised by the public welcome that greeted his arrival. He was "puzzled to find himself a personage," said James Russell Lowell. But his political friends were quick to see in his triumph abroad a chance to restore their own prestige at home, and they urged him on until he had completed a tour of the world, which remains, perhaps, unequalled in brilliance. As he went his way from London to Tokyo, emperors and kings honored him.

Coming home after a three years' absence, he weakly yielded to the politicians who were using his name in a desperate adventure to regain power for the "Stalwart" faction of the Republican party. But the unwritten law against a third term was vindicated in his defeat in the Republican convention of 1880.

Falling the White House, he was tempted by a "young Napoleon of Finance" into the whirlpool of New York and to become a partner in a Wall street bank. Into that blind



Ulysses S. Grant.

venture he put what little money he had and most of all . . . his name. After three years he was rudely awakened from his dream of wealth by the "young Napoleon's" request that he go borrowing from William H. Vanderbilt to save the bank from crashing. He was lame from a fall on an icy street when the truth was broken to him, but he limped into the Fifth avenue palace of the multimillionaire and came out with \$150,000.

As he entered the bank, two days later, he was met with the crushing news that the firm of Grant & Ward had gone down in a shameful failure. Hours afterward a clerk found the broken man still sitting at his desk in silent despair, his head dropped forward, his hands gripping the arms of his chair.

Out of bad came good. Grant opens his "Personal Memoirs" with a frank admission that he consented to write that great narrative only because he was living on borrowed money when a publisher proposed the undertaking. As he pursued his theme he was gratified to discover an unsuspected gift for unfolding a moving tale of his adventures and achievements in the field. He wrote on until he had finished a story as imposing in its directness and simplicity as his own nature. And the first sales of it brought his wife, when he was gone, more money than all the earnings of his lifetime.

One day, in the midst of his writing, as he was eating a peach, he felt a stabbing pain in his throat. A deadly cancer had him in its clutch. With grim heroism, he fought it until he had completed the two volumes of his "Memoirs," although he was reduced to the necessity of whispering his dictation in the ear of a stenographer. Finally he was left speechless and had to write out the closing chapters on a pad in his lap.

At the coming of summer, he was taken up state to a cottage on Mt. McGregor. There he silently welcomed, as he sat on the piazza, the visitors who came to see him, among them General Simon Bolivar Buckner. To that classmate at West Point and foe at Fort Donaldson, Grant gave his last message of rejoicing that his sufferings had united North and South in a common sympathy.

An Unclimbed Mountain.

It has been said that it would take two years to climb Mount Everest, in the Himalayas, the world's highest peak. So far no white man has won the honor of scaling this snow-capped peak.

LOCAL ITEMS

Hugo Braun was a Saginaw visitor over the week end.

Oscar Vibber, chief of police, was in Ithaca on business Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Willert of Ithaca were Alma visitors Sunday.

Dr. Reginald McClinton of Shepherd was an Alma visitor Friday.

Ralph Chisholm of Breckenridge, was an Alma visitor Thursday evening.

Miss Mildred Carner spent the week end visiting with Saginaw friends.

Attorney Charles H. Goggin was in Ithaca on business Thursday and Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Hammond are the proud parents of a boy, born to them on March 28.

H. J. Brown of Los Angeles, California, is visiting at the home of his sister, Mrs. Charles Bentley, Gratiot avenue.

State Representative A. Osborn of the Soo, was a guest of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Robson of this city over the week end.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Cohoon returned last week from Florida, where they have been spending the winter months.

Lester Allen, who is attending M. A. C. this year, is enjoying the spring vacation in Alma, being a guest at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jotham Allen.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Convis of Ithaca attended the opening banquet of the Alma College endowment campaign Friday evening at Wright Hall.

Charles Watson of Breckenridge was in Alma Friday evening and attended the opening banquet of the Alma College endowment campaign in Gratiot county.

Rev. Joseph Greene of Mt. Pleasant was in Alma Friday evening, and attended the opening banquet of the Alma College endowment drive.

Fred W. Goodes of Baltimore, former resident of this city, is visiting in Alma for a few days. He is now the Republic distributor in that eastern city.

Mr. and Mrs. Romaine Clark of St. Louis were guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. William Strong, Allen avenue, on Sunday.

W. W. Tanner of Saginaw was an Alma visitor Friday, being here on business in connection with the college endowment drive. Mr. Tanner, one of Saginaw's leading merchants, is the chairman of the college drive there.

Optimistic thought.
Good temper is like a sunny day. It sheds its brightness on everything.

Roman Idea Concerning Oysters.
According to an eminent old Roman doctor, the Romans' predilection for oysters was a sanitary one, which he explained thuswise: "Living oysters are endowed with the proper medicinal virtues; they nourish wonderfully, and solicit rest; for he who sups on oysters is wont on that night to sleep placidly; and to the valedictory afflicted with a weak stomach, eight, ten or twelve raw oysters in a morning, or one hour before dinner, is more healing than any drug or mixture that the apothecary can compound."

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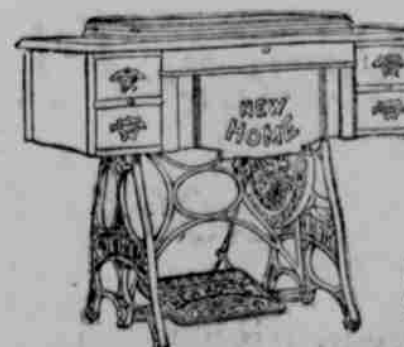
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